



## **Economic Development & Improvement Commission (EDIC)**

**Special Meeting – Monday September 14, 2015 – 12:00 Noon  
Town Manager's Conference Room, First Floor, Town Hall  
MINUTES**

1. Call to order – The meeting was called to order at 12:00 PM
2. Attendance and Quorum (6 members required) Mark Trahan - Chairman, Dorcas McHugh, Judy Keane, Dan Silver, Mirella D'Antonio, Peter O'Keefe, John Adamian, Gioia Zack.  
Also in attendance: Tony Martino, Town Council, Leslie Civitello - Chamber of Commerce, Peter Gillespie - Director of Planning and Economic Development and Jeff Bridges - Town Manager.
3. Old Business
  - a. Vacant Property Updates - Peter Gillespie discussed the status of the following properties:  
Jordan Lane – Former nursing home, interested developer discussing with realtor.  
295 Ridge Road – 70 unit apartment building project submitted to Design Review approval.  
1000 Silas Deane Highway – Working with property owner and interested party regarding demolition and redevelopment.  
1178 Silas Deane Highway – Fun Zone – Potential for larger project in cooperation with surrounding properties being investigated.
  - b. Grant Project Status
    1. Heritage Walk – Utilities have been staked out, some of the granite posts have been delivered and the opening is rescheduled date late October/early November.
    2. Church/Main Street Intersection – Bid awarded to DiCioccio should start in a few weeks.
    3. STEAP 2014 – 1000 Silas Deane Highway/Façade Funding – \$450,000. See discussion above.
4. New Business
  - a. Welcome Wagon - Judy Keane offered to display items at Cornfest and Peter Gillespie noted that they are in the midst of soliciting businesses to fill the bags with promotional items.
  - b. Photo Contest – Dorcas McHugh made a motion to fund \$500 from the EDIC for the contest winners, Peter O'Keefe seconded the motion and the vote showed all members in favor. It was suggested that the Tourism Commission should request a specific line item for this in next years budget.
  - c. Salute To Business – December 10 – It was suggested that the Marketing Subcommittee should meet and discuss the details for the event and potential award recipients.
  - d. Review of Tax Incentive Policy – Peter Gillespie noted that he is in receipt of copies of policies from surrounding communities and noted that it might be wise for the Finance Subcomm. to meet and discuss further.

5. Other Business – Judy Keane inquired about previous efforts to attract a Trader Joe’s to the community and offered to help. Peter O’Keefe suggested that the Woogle logo is removed from the website and replaced with something else.
6. Reports            Town Manager's Report – Jeff Bridges reported on the following:
  - High School reopened on time
  - Ridge Road apartments – Town Council tax incentivesTown Council Liaison's Report – Tony Martino reported on the upcoming election, Marsh and Main Street intersection bid.  
Planning & Zoning Commission Liaison's Report – Leigh Standish was not present to make a report. Peter Gillespie reported on a few recent approvals: 282/284 Silas Deane relocation for Cove Deli, 974-990 Silas Deane Highway site improvements to accommodate Ear, Nose and Throat/William Raveis office tenants, 860/862 Silas Deane new buyer renovation of building for new tenants, Heirloom Market planned for Comstock Ferre.  
Tourism Commission Liaison's Report – Dorcas McHugh reported Wethersfield was featured in an article in Group Tour Magazine. Advertisement in Boston Globe Sunday insert, Photo Contest.  
Chamber of Commerce Liaison's Report – Leslie Civitello reported on the following: Business After Hours , Cornfest September 19<sup>th</sup>
7. Chairman's Report
8. Sub-Committee Reports            Marketing and Communications - Nothing additional to report.  
   Financial Strategies - Nothing additional to report.
9. Minutes – Dorcas McHugh motioned to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2015 meeting, Judy Keane seconded the motion and all voted in favor.
10. Next Meeting – Thursday, October 8, 2015
11. Correspondence - There was no correspondence.
12. Adjournment - Dorcas MchHugh made a motion to adjourn at 12:50 p.m. Judy Keane seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted

Peter Gillespie  
Town Planner/Economic Development Manager